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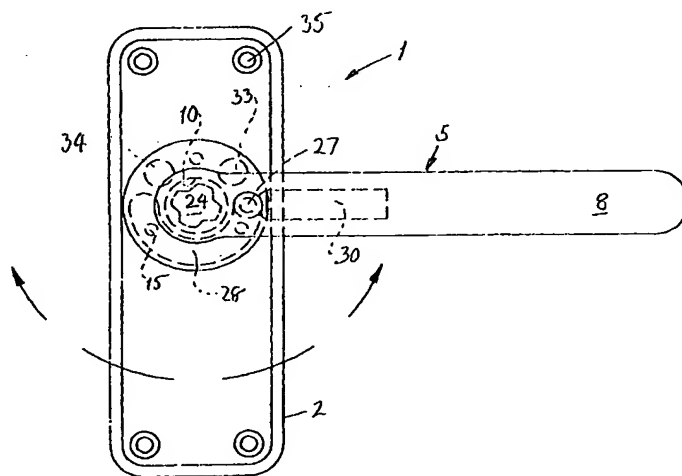


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(57) **Abstract:** A locking mechanism (1) is provided for a door latch mechanism in which a latch spindle is turnable to withdraw a latch bolt of the latch mechanism from a latching position into which it is spring biased. The locking mechanism comprises a lever handle (5) having a fluted passageway (24) for fitting to an adjacent end of the latch spindle. The passageway enables the handle to turn relatively to the latch spindle in opposite directions through a predetermined angle of movement. At one end of this angle of movement, the handle is in a horizontal rest position and is engageable with the latch spindle for turning the spindle in a direction to withdraw the latch bolt from its latching position and, at the opposite end, the handle is in a lifted locking position and is engageable with the spindle to prohibit turning thereof in the opening direction. At the locking position, a locking member (27) slidably mounted in the handle and controlled by a trigger part (30), extending behind the lever part (8) of the handle is engageable in one of a pair of retainer holes (33,34) depending on the handing of the lever handle.